

Tracy

**An historic
strain of
blood in
America**

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An Historic Strain of Blood in America

Fraunces Latham—Mother of Governors

BY
LOUISE TRACY
GENEALIST
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

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Historic Strain of Blood in America

Transplanted

from the Old World

into the New World and Infused

through the Politics and the Achievements

of the American Nation & Progeny of Jeremiah Clarke

and his wife, Frances Latham, "The Mother of Governors" & Investigations

BY

LOUISE TRACY

NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Author of "The Two Martha Goodspeeds" in New York Biographical and Genealogical Record—Compiler of Amity Records—Genealogist to Many Distinguished American Families.

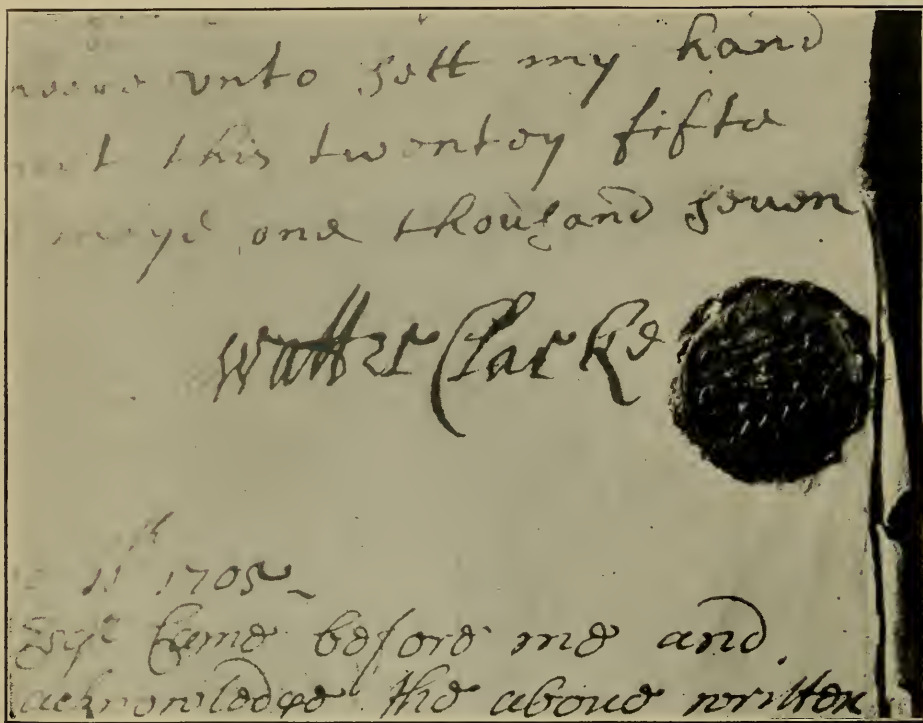
THE power of heredity, which, when its secret is discovered by some future scientist, may solve many of the problems of physical, mental and moral man, is frequently observed by American genealogists who are interested in the psychological aspect of their researches. That there will come a scientist who will discover the science of heredity as Harvey did the circulation of the blood; Newton, the power of gravitation, or Franklin the existence of electricity, is more than a probability. Through such discovery may be solved the problems of marriage relations and the development of men and women to the highest plane of life.

Genealogy to-day is the social foundation through which this discovery may be made. Several eminent American genealogists have recently noted marked instances of strong strains of blood that have dominated generations. Instances have been observed where strong lines overcome the inter-flow of all incoming strains. The blood of man holds the secret of the ages; through his veins runs the generations; he is the reincarnation of thousands that have left their earthly immortality in him. How much of us is the chem-

istry of the generations; how much of us is astrological influence; how much of us is individual divinity, or human effort, or environment, or opportunity, or chance, is the secret which someone must some time reveal to mankind. In the meantime, we are building future generations wholly on adventure, accident, and coincidence,—where we happen to go, whom we happen to meet, and the circumstances. There is no known designed or defined order in the most important and the greatest creation within the power of mankind.

A recent research by Louise Tracy, one of the Connecticut genealogists, offers opportunity for study. In tracing a genealogical line out of the Old World into the New World in the early days of the transplanting of the English blood in America, this genealogist follows it through several illustrious families, and a remarkable chain of governors and political leaders which distinguishes it historically as "the mother of American governors." The record is here made purely as a contribution to American historical and genealogical literature. All rights are herewith assigned to the author, from the original publication in THE JOURNAL OF AMERICAN HISTORY.—EDITOR.

An Historic Strain of Blood in America



SEAL AND AUTOGRAPH OF GOVERNOR WALTER CLARKE—Photograph from an Original Deed in the possession of the Newport Historical Society and believed to contain the long-sought and much-desired Clarke Coat-of-Arms

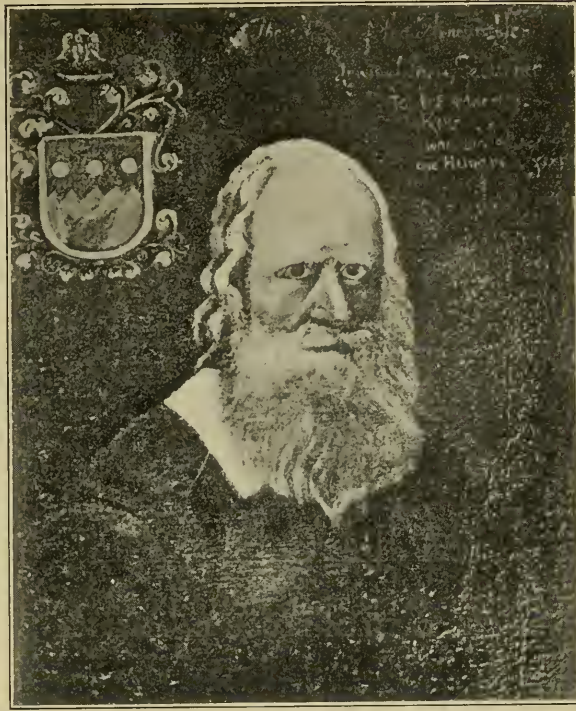
IT would seem, that in the American nation of to-day, with its nearly twenty million homes, that the narrative of the lives of a man and his wife would scarcely come within the scope of American history; but, when we look back, three centuries or more, upon this broad land of ours, and picture in our minds, its grand forests, rapid rivers and broad lakes, lying under winter snows or summer sunshine, in a stillness broken only by nature's sounds or the wild whoop of the Indian, and contrast it with the teeming cities, lakes and rivers bearing sailing craft or steamers to and fro, the hum of mills, roar of engine and train, the uncouth automobile horn, in short, all the busy activity of

the millions of human beings inhabiting this Western Continent, we can but admit that we owe the change to the men and women who left home and kindred and braved the dangers of the sea and a life in the wilderness, to establish homes for themselves in the New World. Many of them came to escape religious persecution, others to better their fortunes, but one and all had to battle with the trials of settlement in a new country, famine, pestilence and the horrors of Indian warfare.

With the building of their homes and church—or even before, as in the case of the “Mayflower” Pilgrims—came their plans for civil government.

They builded better than they knew; probably not one of them imagined, in the faintest degree,

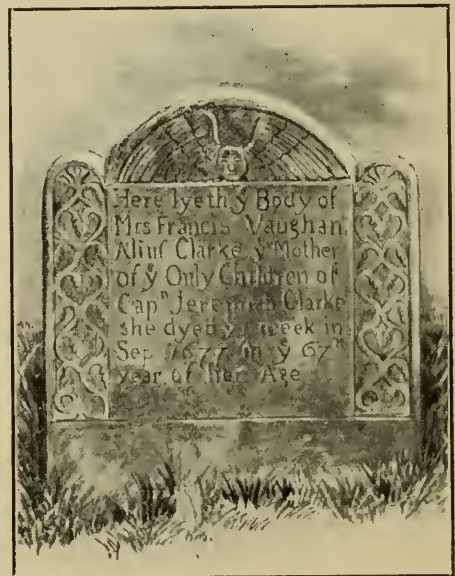
Frances Latham Clarke—Mother of Governors



PORTRAIT OF LEWIS LATHAM, FALCONER TO
CHARLES I—Father of Frances Latham Clarke

what the result of their labors would be; or, that the end of three centuries would find it numbered as one of the most important of the nations.

Among the early settlers of what we now call Rhode Island, was Jeremiah Clarke, who came from England, bringing with him his newly-wedded wife and her children by a former husband, William Dungan, of London. Where, or when he was born, or who were his parents, is as yet, so far as the writer has discovered, unknown. That his wife belonged to a family of position in England, is known, and from that, and the fact that he at once took a prominent place among the people with whom he had cast his lot, we infer him to have been a man of fine education, and of a family equal to that of his wife.



In the "Common Burial Ground" at Newport—Drawing by Charles L. N. Camp



LATHAM MANOR HOUSE—ANCESTRAL HOME IN LANCASHIRE, ENGLAND,
OF THE LATHAM BLOOD IN AMERICA



COMMON BURIAL GROUND OF NEWPORT—Now called the "Governors' Lot,"
showing head and foot-stone of Frances (Clarke) Vaughan, "Mother of Governors," in
foreground—Drawing by Charles L. N. Camp, Genealogist, of New Haven, Connecticut

Frances Latham Clarke—Mother of Governors

Jeremiah Clarke—Progenitor of an Ancient American Family

In 1639, he was chosen "Elder" at Aquidneck, and on April 28th of the same year, he, with eight others, signed the compact at Portsmouth, preparatory to the settlement of a new town at the south end of the island, later called Newport. In 1640, he was appointed constable, and on March 10th of the same year, is recorded as owning sixteen acres of land at Newport. The same year he attended the General Court of Elections, and in 1642 was chosen lieutenant of the Newport Militia. March 13, 1644, he was chosen as captain, then the highest military rank in the colony.

He served as treasurer for Newport, 1644-1647; and 1647-1649, as treasurer of the colony. In 1648, he was chosen governor's assistant, an office similar to the senator of to-day, and, pending the clearance of certain accusations against Governor William Coddington, he was elected governor, under the title of "President," thus attaining to the highest position within the gift of his fellow-men.

In 1651, having served his day and generation well, as one of the "Makers of American History," he fell asleep and was laid to rest in the town of which he was one of the founders, the "Friends' Meeting" of January, 1652, thus recording his death and burial: "Jeremiah Clarke, one of the first English planters of Rhode Island, died at Newport, in said island, and was buried in the tomb that stands by the street on the waterside, Newport, upon the — day of the eleventh month, 1651."

Sixty-three years later, his burial-place is referred to by his grandchildren, in the settlement of the estate of their father, Governor Walter Clarke, they giving to Colonel John Cranston, also a grandchild, a cer-

tain piece of land on Main Street, "said land being given in consideration of its being kept in good condition, and never broke up, but kept in good and decent manner as a memorial to our honored grand-father, Jeremiah Clarke, whose body was interred there in Feb., 1651." Succeeding generations of the Cranston family must have ignored the "consideration," for the place where he was interred is now covered with buildings. Mr. Tilley, an authority on the early history of Newport, thinks it have been where the "Boston Store" stands on Main, now Thames Street.

Were it possible to find the old tomb to-day, it might solve the mystery which surrounds the ancestry of Jeremiah Clarke, for it must have given the date and place of his birth, and, probably, as so many of the gravestones of the early Newport families did, his coat-of-arms; but not even a description of the tomb, other than the above, have I found. That his son, Governor Walter Clarke, used a coat-of-arms, we know, for in the settlement of his estate, in 1714, his children, who were daughters, *"agree, that our Uncle, Weston Clarke, shall have our father's seal, on which our father's coat-of-arms is engraven."* This seal he had probably, as eldest son, inherited from his father.

Search for the Coat-of-Arms of Jeremiah Clarke in America

For some years, various persons, I among them, had been searching for the Jeremiah Clarke coat-of-arms. Having examined every printed description of the family that I could find, also copies of wills and deeds, and finding nothing but the above, I turned my attention to Clarke gravestones. A diligent search in different grave-yards showed no stone—even that of Governor Walter Clarke, in Clifton graveyard in Newport—



Lewis Latham —
Falconer to
King Charles I.

Frances Latham — 1. William Dungan — (2) Jeremiah Clarke —

b. Eng. d. Newport. 1661
a man of distinction in the Colony.
Signer of the Compact at Portsmouth.
Treasurer.
Member of the General Court of Elections.
Lieutenant, 1642, Captain.
Treasurer for Newport.
Treasurer of the Colony 4 years.
Assistant.
President Regent acting as Governor.

Dungan
James Barker
corporal 1644. Ensign 1648
member of the General Court of Election 1648
commissioner 3 years
royal Charterer — 1663
assistant 9 years
deputy 12 years
deputy Governor 1678

William Dungan
Major Randall Holden
Signer of the Compact at
Portsmouth 1637-8
Signer of the Compact at
Warwick 1642
Commissioner 9 years

Frances Dungan
Major Randall Holden
Signer of the Compact at
Portsmouth 1637-8
Signer of the Compact at
Warwick 1642
Commissioner 9 years

Rev Thomas Dungan
was one of the 47 who
took grant of 5000
acres to be called
East Greenwich
Sergeant 1626, Deputy
1628 to '31, and in 1629
Minister of the First
Baptist Church of
Cold Spring, Pa.

Jeremiah Clarke 1642-3
Deputy for Newport 1696-1706
10 years
Ann Koolley

Walter Clarke, b.
Assistant 1673-74
Governor 1676-7, '86
Deputy Governor 23
Member of Sir Edmund
Council, 1686
= 1. Convent Greenme
= 2. Hannah Scott d. o.
= 3 Mrs Freeborn
Roger Will
= 4. Mrs. Sarah
Matthew P

Barker
Nicholas Easton
of Hon. Peter
ston, by wife
u. dau. of
resident John
ggheshall.

Capt James Barker
Member of Troop of
Horse 1667 Deputy
10 years. Member of
Court Martial 1676
Assistant 4 years.

Mary Barker
= 1. Elisha Smith
s. of Hon Edward
= (2) Israel Arnold
Deputy 4 years
s. of Stephen Arnold.
many years on the
Governor's Council.

Peter Barker
= 1. Frelove Bliss
gr. dau. of Gov.
Benedict Arnold

William Barker
Deputy 5
years
=

Lieut Charles Holden
Deputy from Warwick 1715-16
= Katherine Greene, dau. of
Deputy Governor John Greene
and through their son Anthony
Holden they were ancestors of
Henry Lippitt Governor of R.I.
1875-1877 and his son
Charles Warren Lippitt
Governor 1895-96.

Frances Holden
= Lieut. John Holmes
Deputy 3 years
General Treasurer
1690-1703

Elizabeth Holden
= Capt John Rice
Deputy 9 years.

Mary Ho
= JohnDeput

Katharine Holmes = Joseph Gardiner

William Gardiner = Mary Garr.

John Gardiner (descent proved by deed)
Deputy Governor of R.I. 1754. 1756-1764

= Frances Sanford.
Through their grand-daughter Elizabeth
married John Rogers they were the
of Samuel Greene Arnold Lieut Gov

Mary Gardiner = Capt Peleg Clarke

Nancy Clarke
= Hon. Christopher Fowler

Sarah Fowler
= Col. Edward Martin

Sarah Kate Martin
= Rev. Horace L.E. Pratt.

Dallas Bache Pratt
= Mary Gordon Landon

Alexander Bache Pratt
Katharine Griswold Pratt = Lycurgus Winchester
Constance Southworth of Baltimore
Beatrice Gordon Pratt

Hope Gordon Winchester.
Katharine Lycurgus Winchester.



Gardner.



Greene

To the Memory of
The Hon.ble JOHN GARDNER, Esq.
late Lieut Governor of this Colony
This Tomb is dedicated

changed this Life for one more glorious
on the 29th Day of January. A.D. 1764.

in the 60th Year of his Age.
Death was to the Community the loss of
useful and worthy Member: To his Discon-
te Wife and numerous Offspring a loss
parable he was a loving & indulgent Husband
well as a tender and affectionate Parent and
remarkable for his affable and courteous
Department to all Men.

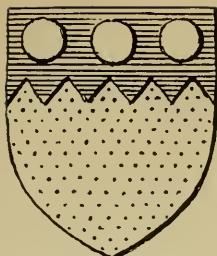
le young he devoted himself to the service
is Country in which he was advanced to
y Posts of the greatest Trust which he
discharged with honour and Fidelity.

was early received into the Baptist Church
he Communion of which he remained a worthy
ber till his Death: His Life was exemplary
few men had a more extensive Charity for
Christians of every Denomination.

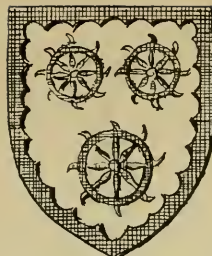
his last hour he bore his Sickness with becoming
ence and Resignation a glorious Presage of his
Happiness: And we trust he is now at rest.
the Mansions of Bliss with his Redeemer
the Spirits of just Men made perfect.

STORIC STRAIN OF BLOOD IN AMERICA FROM LEWIS LATHAM, FALCONER TO KING CHARLES I— Chart drawn
instead of 1661— The name "Gold" in the Walter Clarke line is more frequently used as "Gould"—The record of the appointment

William Vaughan



Latham



Scott.



Cran

Mary Clarke b. 1641.

Grand Capt. John Cranston
Attorney General for Providence
and Warwick 1654-'55, '56
Commissioner 1655-'59, '60, '61-'63
Deputy 1664—1669
Assistant 1658, '66, '70, '71, '72
Deputy Governor 1672, '73, '76, '77, '78.
Major and Chief Captain of all the
Colony from 1676
Major 1677-'78
Governor 1678, '79, '80.
= 2. John Staunton

Latham Clarke, b. 1645

Member of Court Martial 1676
Deputy 1681, '82, '83, '85, '90, '91
'92.

Weston Clarke, b. 1648

Member of Court Martial 1676.
Attorney General 1676, '77, '80,
'81, '83, '84, '85, '86.
General Treasurer 1681—1686
General Recorder 22 years between
1640 and 1715.
Commissioner of Boundaries
1703-1704
On Committee to draw up laws
for the Colony.

James Clarke, b. 1649.

Pastor of Second
Baptist Church of
Newport 1701 until
his death in 1736

Sarah Clark

= 1. John Pinne
= 2. Caleb Car
Commission
'59, '60, '61
General Tr
Deputy 12
1664 and 16
Assistant G
Governor.

Samuel Cranston

Assistant 1646
Major for Islands 1698
Governor of R.I. 1698-1727
30 years

Col John Granston

Deputy 9 years
Speaker of House
of Deputies 1711-1716
Assistant 1746.

Elizabeth Cranston

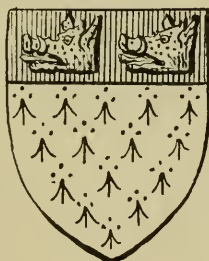
= Capt John Brown
Deputy 8 years appointed
on a special Council to
assist the Governor in
advice for the speedy ex-
pedition of the great de-
sign now intended against
Canada.
= 2. Rev James Honeyman
Pastor of Old Trinity.

Fraunces Clarke

= John Sanford son of Samuel and
nephew of Gov. Peleg Sanford.

Samuel Clarke = Hannah Wilcocks.

Audley Clarke = Sarah Weedon



Sanford

t or marriage

President (Aiding Gov.

Governor of Rhode Island 1648

1676 - 6 years

1678 - '79 '80.

26 years.

1695

1743 - 1758

1778 - 1785

1875 - 1877.

1895 - 1896

1732 - 1733

1877 - 1889

1896 - 1902

Washington died during 2nd term.

y or Lieutenant Governors.

1678

5 years

1754, 1756, 1764

1679 - 1714 14 years

ene 1st

ene 2nd *

ne Arnold * 1853, '61, '62.

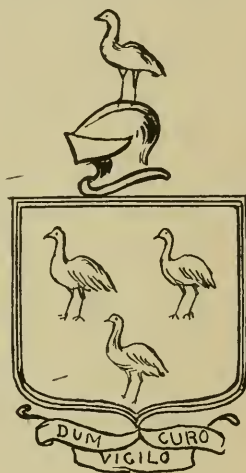
er Van Zandt 1873-1875.

ene *

Water Clarke



Arnold



Here lieth
The Body of JOHN CRANSTON
Esq. Gov. of the Colony of Rhode
Island &c. He departed this Life Ma
the 12th 1680 in ye 55th Year of
his Age.

Here lieth
The Body of SAMUEL
CRANSTON, Esq.
Late Governour of This
Colony Aged 68 Years &
Departed this Life April ye 26th
A.D. 1727. he was Son of John
Cranston Esq. who also was
Governour here 1680. He was
descended from the Noble Scottish
Lord Cranston, And carried in his V
a stream of the Antient Earls of
Crawford Bothwell & Traquair
Having had for his Grandfather Jam
Cranston Clerk Chaplain to King Charl
The First. His Great Grandfather was
John Cranston of Pool Esq. This last
was son to James Cranston Esq. Which
James was Son to William Lord Crans
Rest happy now Brave Patriot without End.
Thy Country's Father & thy Country's Frien

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bearing anything more than an inscription. Then I determined to look for original papers signed by Governor Clarke, both as citizen and governor. Mr. Tilley, the courteous Curator of the Newport Historical Society, and also Commissioner of Records for the State of Rhode Island, kindly allowed me to examine all the papers of which he had charge, and among them I worked for weeks. Paper after paper was examined, each a fresh disappointment, until, one morning, when hope was almost gone, I was informed, on my arrival at the Historical Society Rooms, that in a bundle of old papers brought in the day before, had been found a deed, given by Governor Walter Clarke, in 1705, bearing a seal, which was probably the one for which I was searching. The seal, I saw at once, bore an heraldic device, which, when examined through a magnifying glass, showed quite plainly, and was evidently made by *the* seal. With Mr. Tilley's permission, and under his supervision, I had a photograph taken—somewhat enlarged—of the signature and seal, and on my return to New Haven, had another photograph, still more enlarged, taken of the seal.

Frances Latham and Her Marriage to Jeremiah Clarke in Britain

Frances Latham (spelled Francis on both her head and foot-stone) was baptized in the parish of Kempston, County Bedford, England, February 15, 1609-10, and was the daughter of Lewis Latham, of Estow, County Bedford, England. Lewis Latham was of a Cadet branch of the Lathams of County Lancaster, England, and bore the arms of that family. He was falconer to Richard Berrick, and under-falconer to Charles, Prince of Wales, who, on ascending the throne as Charles I, retained his falconers, and in 1627, promoted Lewis Latham to the office of serjeant-falconer. Latham probably remained in office until his death, in 1655.

Among the possessions of Frances Latham, and said to have been brought over to New England by her, was a portrait of the old falconer, thought to have been painted by Sir Peter Lely, which is now owned by one of her descendants, the late Honorable William Lukens Elkins, of Philadelphia.

According to a tradition in the family (See "Barker Family"), Frances Latham married, first, Lord Weston, then William Dungan, perfumer, of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields Parish, London, and after his death married Mr. Jeremiah Clarke and came over to New England. After his death, she married the Reverend Mr. Vaughan, pastor of the Baptist Church, in Newport.

Mr. George Austin Morrison, junior, in his able work on "The Clarks of Rhode Island," doubts the first marriage, however, and he gives such good reasons for it that I quote them, verbatim:

"Notwithstanding this" (the Barker statement), "the belief is advanced, with great show of reason, that her first husband was not 'Lord Weston, as the Herald's Visitations and Peerages give no one possessing such a title, contemporary with her. There was a Baron Weston, created, 1628, but his genealogy does not show any such alliance. If she married a Lord Weston, it must have been at an extremely early age, and the fact that she exchanged the title of Lady Weston, to marry William Dungan, the perfumer, is improbable.

"The name Weston, however, among her descendants must be explained, and to this end the genealogy of the Clarke family of Willoughby, County Warwick, is of great interest. This family bear coat armor blazoned as follows: Argent, on a bend; gules, between three pellets, as many swans of the first; on a sinister canton, azure, a ram's head, salient, of the first, and in chief, two *fleur-de-lis*, or, crest, a ram's head, coupé, proper. Burke's Peerage gives this family."

Frances Latham Clarke—Mother of Governors

Mr. Morrison also adds: "A James Clarke of East Farleigh, Gent, left a will, dated July 13, 1614, proved November 1, 1614, in which he mentions that his house and orchard lying at Court Wood Gate, in the parish of Wynton, is to go, after death of Griffin Roches and wife Jane, to *Weston Clarke*, and his heirs forever." Frances Latham was four or five years old when this will, mentioning a Weston Clarke was made, which adds weight to Mr. Morrison's belief that the name Weston did not come into the Clarke family through her marriage with a Weston.

To quote again from Mr. Morrison's work: "Eliza Britton, born Aug. 21, 1798, dau. Elizabeth Clarke,⁵ Audley,⁴ Henry,³ Jeremiah,² Jeremiah,¹ left, among her effects, a photo of a coat of arms, which was evidently taken from the tomb of Sir John Clarke, Knt, at Thames Church, County Oxford, and the arms blazoned thereon are exactly the same as those borne by the present baronet, who is a lineal descendant of Sir John Clarke of Weston. This seems a claim on Eliza Britton's part, to have descended from this family. The theory advanced now is, that Frances Latham never married a Lord Weston, but that Jeremiah Clarke, when she married him, was Lord of the Manor of Weston."

Note, also, that Frances Latham gave the name of Weston to a Clarke, not a Dungan child; that the seal of Governor Clarke is to be given to an uncle, Weston Clarke, and that Jeremiah Clarke named one of his sons James. (See will of James Clarke.)

The seal photo I have submitted to various persons versed in heraldry. All agree that the arms are similar to those of Latham, but differ as to the crest, the majority thinking it suggestive of the lark or dove rising, with or without the ear of wheat in its mouth, as used by some of the English Clarks. However, I simply record the find and leave the matter open for discussion.

Of Frances (Latham) Clarke's personal appearance or character, no word has come down to us through the generations, except in the lives of such distinguished descendants as few women have given to the world. Lowell says that every man is a bundle of his ancestors; of her, we might say that she lives in her descendants. It is said: "The hand that rocks the cradle, rules the world," and with the birth and care of her eleven children, giving them the careful training of those days, besides the keeping of the home, and entertaining the noted men and women of the times, her life must have been a very full one. She must have been, in the truest sense, a "help-meet" to her distinguished husband, and the loved and honored mother of her children.

That she undoubtedly was an attractive woman, her three marriages would indicate. Left a widow at twenty-six, with four children, she was soon taken to wife by Jeremiah Clarke, and when again widowed, in 1651, when forty-one years of age, she was sought in marriage by the Reverend Mr. Vaughan, probably her pastor. Each one of her sons served his country, or church, with public service, and each daughter married men who did the same.

One can imagine the gathering of distinguished men and women in the "Common Burial Ground" of Newport, on that September day of 1677, when Frances Vaughan, recently widowed for the third time, was laid in her grave.

There was her eldest Clarke son, then governor; her daughter Mary, with her husband, then Deputy-Governor John Cranston, later, governor, and their son Samuel, a young strippling, who, before the century closed, would also be a governor, holding the office for thirty years; her daughter Sarah, sometime the wife of Governor Caleb Carr; Barbara, with her husband, James Barker, to be chosen the next year, deputy-governor; Fran-

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ces and her husband, Major Randall Holden, ancestors of several of Rhode Island's governors and one of Washington; Weston Clarke, then attorney-general; James, Latham and Jeremiah Clarke, with their sons and daughters, and Reverend Thomas Dungan, who, perhaps, was the one to say the last sacred words over his mother's grave.

Progeny of Frances Clarke— Their Intermarriages in America

1. Barbara Dungan, born 1628, in England, the first born child of Frances Latham, married James Barker, corporal, 1644; ensign, 1648; member of General Court of Elections, 1648, commissioner three years; Royal Charterer, 1663; deputy, assistant-governor, deputy-governor in 1678.

Of their children, Elizabeth married Nicholas Easton, grandson of Governors Easton and Coggeshall; Mary married first, Elisha Smith; second, Israel Arnold, deputy eight years, grandson of Governor Benedict Arnold. Peter married Freelope Bliss, also a grandchild of Governor Arnold, and William married Elizabeth Easton, sister to Nicholas Easton, who had married his sister Elizabeth, and so grand-daughter of two governors.

2. William Dungan.

3. Francis Dungan, born 1630, in England, married Major Randall Holden, signer of the compact at Portsmouth, 1637-1638; signer of the compact at Warwick, 1642-1643; commissioner, nine years.

Their daughter, Frances, married John Holmes, general treasurer of Rhode Island 1690-1710; lieutenant, 1696; Elizabeth married John Rice, deputy, 1710; Mary married John Carder, deputy, 1678-1696; Sarah married Joseph Stafford; Randall, deputy, 1696-1699; 1700-1704-1714-1715-1721; assistant, 1705-1725, twenty years; major for the main, 1706; speaker of the House of Deputies, 1714-1715; married Bethiah Waterman; Margaret married John

Eldred, ensign, 1692; later, captain and assistant, 1699-1717, fifteen years; Lieutenant Charles, deputy, 1710-1716, married Catherine, daughter of Deputy-Governor John Greene; Barbara married Samuel Wickham, deputy, 1701-1703-1704-1707-1709-1710; clerk of Assembly, 1703-1709-1710, and Susannah married Benjamin, son of Honorable Thomas Greene.

Frances Dungan and Major Randall Holden number several governors of Rhode Island and one of Washington among their descendants, and many other of the most distinguished men and women of the country.

4. Reverend Thomas Dungan was one of the "47" who took grant of five thousand acres to be called East Greenwich. He was serjeant in 1676; deputy, 1676-1681, and in 1684, minister of the First Baptist Church in Cold Spring, Pennsylvania, moving there in 1684.

Morgan Edwards, writing of the old church, which was broken up in 1702, says: "The Reverend Thomas Dungan, the first Baptist minister in the province, now exists (1770) in a progeny of between 600 and 700. He married Elizabeth Weaver, daughter of Clement.

"He is said to have been a man of great learning, having studied with his step-father, the Reverend Mr. Vaughan, of Newport." From him descend many of Pennsylvania's best families.

5. Walter Clarke, born 1640, married, first, Content Greenman; second, Hannah Scott, daughter of Richard; third, Mrs. Freeborn Hart, daughter of Roger Williams, and fourth, Mrs. Sarah Gould, daughter of Matthew Prior.

He was assistant 1673-1674-1675-1699; governor, 1676-1677-1686-1696-1697-1698; deputy-governor twenty-three years; member of Sir Edmund Andros' Council, 1686.

Hannah, his daughter by his second wife, Hannah Scott, married Dr.

Frances Latham Clarke—Mother of Governors

Thomas Rodman, who came to Newport from Barbadoes in 1675. He was a prominent member of the Society of Friends and an eminent physician and surgeon. In 1686, Dr. Rodman purchased a "propriety" in New Jersey. It was a large tract of land extending into three counties, and with the exception of five hundred acres, exchanged, in 1710, for a plantation in Barbadoes, descended to his children.

Of their children, Hannah married Philip Wanton of the noted Rhode Island "Governors" family; Clarke married Anne Coggeshall. He was a physician in Newport and an esteemed minister of the Society of Friends. Tradition says that a memorable sermon of his was upon this text:

A man of words and not of deeds,
Is like a garden full of weeds.

Samuel married Mary Willett, daughter of Colonel Thomas Willett, of Long Island. He was Justice of the Peace in Newport, 1739.

Patience married Jonathan Easton, son of Nicholas.

6. Mary Clarke, born 1641, married Dr. and Captain John Cranston, attorney-general for Providence and Warwick, 1654-1655-1656; commissioner, 1655-1659-1660-1661-1663; deputy, 1664-1669; assistant, 1668-1669-1670-1671-1672 (1676-1677-1678:)? deputy-governor, 1672-1673-1676-1677-1678; major and chief captain of all the colony, 1676; governor, 1678-1679-1680.

Their son, Samuel Cranston, was assistant, 1696; major for the islands, 1698, and governor of Rhode Island, 1698-1727, the longest term known. Their second son, Colonel John, was deputy nine years, speaker of the House of Deputies, 1711-1716; assistant, 1746.

Their daughter, Elizabeth, married, first, Captain John Brown, who was deputy eight years, and appointed on a special council to assist the governor in advice for the speedy expe-

dition of the great design now intended against Canada. She married, second, Reverend James Honeyman, rector of Trinity Church, Newport.

7. Jeremiah Clarke, born 1642-1643, was deputy for Newport ten years, 1696-1706. (See chart for his descendants.)

8. Latham Clarke, born 1645, was member of Court Martial 1676; deputy, 1681-1682-1683-1685-1690-1691-1698; married, first, Hannah Wilbur, and second, Anne Newbury.

Their children married into the Thurston, Fry and Stanton families.

9. Weston Clarke, born 1648, was member of Court Martial, 1676; attorney-general, 1676-1677-1680-1681-1683-1684-1685-1686; general treasurer, 1681-1686; general recorder, twenty-two years, between 1690 and 1715; commissioner of boundaries, 1703-1704; on committee to draw up laws for the colony. He married Mary, grand-daughter of Governor Nicholas Easton.

10. James Clarke, born 1649, was pastor of Second Baptist Church of Newport, from 1701 until his death in 1736. He and his wife, Hope Power, are interred in Newport Cemetery.

11. Sarah Clarke, born 1651, married, first, John Pinner, and second, Caleb Carr of Newport. He was commissioner, 1654-1658-1659-1660-1661-1662; general treasurer, 1661-1662; deputy, twelve years, between 1664 and 1691; assistant, 1679-1691; governor, 1695.

Their grand-daughter, Mary Godfrey, married Governor William Wanton, whose son Joseph, by a former wife, and two nephews were governors of Rhode Island. She married, second, Daniel Updyke.

Strong Men and Women Descended from Beautiful Frances Latham

Time would fail me to mention all the distinguished descendants of Frances Latham, who are scattered over this broad land, but among them,

An Historic Strain of Blood in America

by blood or marriage, were Colonel Daniel Updyke, attorney-general of Rhode Island twenty-five years; Samuel Wickham, one of the original members of the Newport Artillery Company, speaker of the House of Deputies, 1747; deputy, 1744-1748; Colonel Benjamin Wickham, speaker of the House of Deputies, 1757, and deputy, three years; Colonel Christopher Lippitt, of the Revolutionary War; Honorable Ray Greene, attorney-general of Rhode Island and senator, 1799-1801; Honorable Tristram Burgess, senator and chief justice of the Supreme Court of Rhode Island; Colonel Tristram Burgess, of the Civil War, whose sons—Arnold, settling in Michigan, and Tristram in California, carried the blood into the Western states; the noted Julia Ward Howe, whose sister, Louisa, married Thomas Crawford, the sculptor; General William Greene Ward and others of the Ward family; also Colonel Christopher Greene, one of the most gallant officers of the Revolution. Having served his native state as a member of the Colonial Legislature until the commencement of the war, he went at once into service, as lieutenant of the Kentish Guards. Later, he served under his illustrious kinsman, General Nathaniel Greene.

Promoted to a colonelcy in 1777, his military career was a brilliant one, until, surprised by the enemy at dawn on the fourteenth of May, 1781, at Croton River, he yielded up his life at the early age of forty-four. Within a few years the state of New York has honored his memory and those who fell with him, by erecting a monument on the site of the battle.

His eldest daughter married—captain of the Revolution, and major of the War of 1812—Thomas Hughes, and his eldest son, Job Greene, served in the Revolution, and was an original member of the Rhode Island Society of the Cincinnati.

Mention must also be made of Judge Anthony Low of Rhode Island;

Major Philip Low of the Revolution, officer in a Georgia Regiment; Captain Samuel Low, of old Warwick, Rhode Island; Jahleel Brenton, grandson of Governor William Brenton, sheriff, 1721-1733, and deputy, 1737; his son, Jahleel Brenton, rear-admiral of the British Navy, and his son, Sir Jahleel Brenton.

Through the marriage of Hannah Clarke, daughter of Governor Walter, with Dr. Thomas Rodman, there descended, by blood or marriage, Dr. Thomas Rodman, surgeon in the Continental Army, 1759; William Rodman, whose marriage with Lydia Gardner, daughter of Deputy-Governor John Gardner, gave to their daughter, Mary, the wife of Stephen Hopkins, son of the signer of the Declaration of Independence, a double strain of blood, from Frances Latham, and William Mitchell Rodman, Mayor of Providence. Also Professor Francis Greenwood Peabody of Harvard Divinity School, and Walter Langdon Kane, of New York and Newport, are of this line.

Lieutenant-Colonel William Logan Rodman, of the Civil War, Sarah Logan Wister, with her sons, Brigadier-General Langhorne, and Captain Francis Wister, the lovely Mary Fleming Hare, wife of Sussex Delaware Davis, and William H. Hunt, Secretary of the Navy, 1881, and United States Minister to Russia in 1882, come of this line also.

Among them, too, must be mentioned the beautiful Mary Stockton Rotch, grand-daughter of Richard Stockton of New Jersey, who, with her husband, Captain Charles Hunter, of the United States Navy, and young daughter Caroline, was lost in the "Ville de Havre," November, 1873.

The Reverend Thomas Dungan, who settled in Pennsylvania, is claimed as ancestor by many of the most eminent families of that noble state. Among his descendants of note are named Lieutenant-Colonel Dungan of Philadelphia County Artillery, 1780; George Elkins of Maryland,

Frances Latham Clarke—Mother of Governors

and Pennsylvania, who was one of the brave defenders of his country in the War of 1812 with Great Britain; George Washington Elkins of Pittsburgh, to whom, largely, that city owes—in a business way—what it is to-day, and the late William Lukens Elkins, of Philadelphia, capital-

ist, who was not only one of the most eminent business men of Philadelphia, but deeply interested in the development of art in this country, offering a prize of \$5,000 for the most meritorious painting exhibited by an American artist at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts.

A MOTHER OF AMERICAN GOVERNORS

Frances Latham, Daughter of Lewis Latham, the Falconer to King Charles I, who came to America and established a lineal descent of Eminent American Political Leaders, the following Governors claiming her as Ancestress by lineal descent or marriage:

Jeremiah Clarke, her husband, Governor of Rhode Island, 1648

*Walter Clarke,‡ Governor of Rhode Island, 1676,—six years

*John Cranston, Governor of Rhode Island, 1678-1679-1680

*Samuel Cranston,‡ Governor of Rhode Island, 1698-1727

*Caleb Carr, Governor of Rhode Island, 1695

*William Greene, Governor of Rhode Island, 1743-1758

†Henry Lippitt,‡ Governor of Rhode Island, 1875-1877

†Charles Warren Lippitt,‡ Governor of Rhode Island, 1895-1896

*Nehemiah Rice Knight,‡ Governor of Rhode Island, 1817-1821

*William Greene, 2nd,‡ Governor of Rhode Island, 1778-1785

*William Wanton, Governor of Rhode Island, 1732-1733

†Charles Collins Van Zandt, Governor of Rhode Island, 1877-1880

†John Rankin Rogers,‡ Governor of Washington, 1896-1902

DEPUTY OR LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS

James Barker, Lieutenant-Governor of Rhode Island, 1678

John Cranston, Lieutenant-Governor of Rhode Island, 1672-1676-1678

John Gardiner,‡ Lieutenant-Governor of Rhode Island, 1754-1756-1764

Walter Clarke,‡ Lieutenant-Governor of Rhode Island, 1679-1714—fourteen years

William Greene, 1st, Lieutenant-Governor of Rhode Island, 1740-1743

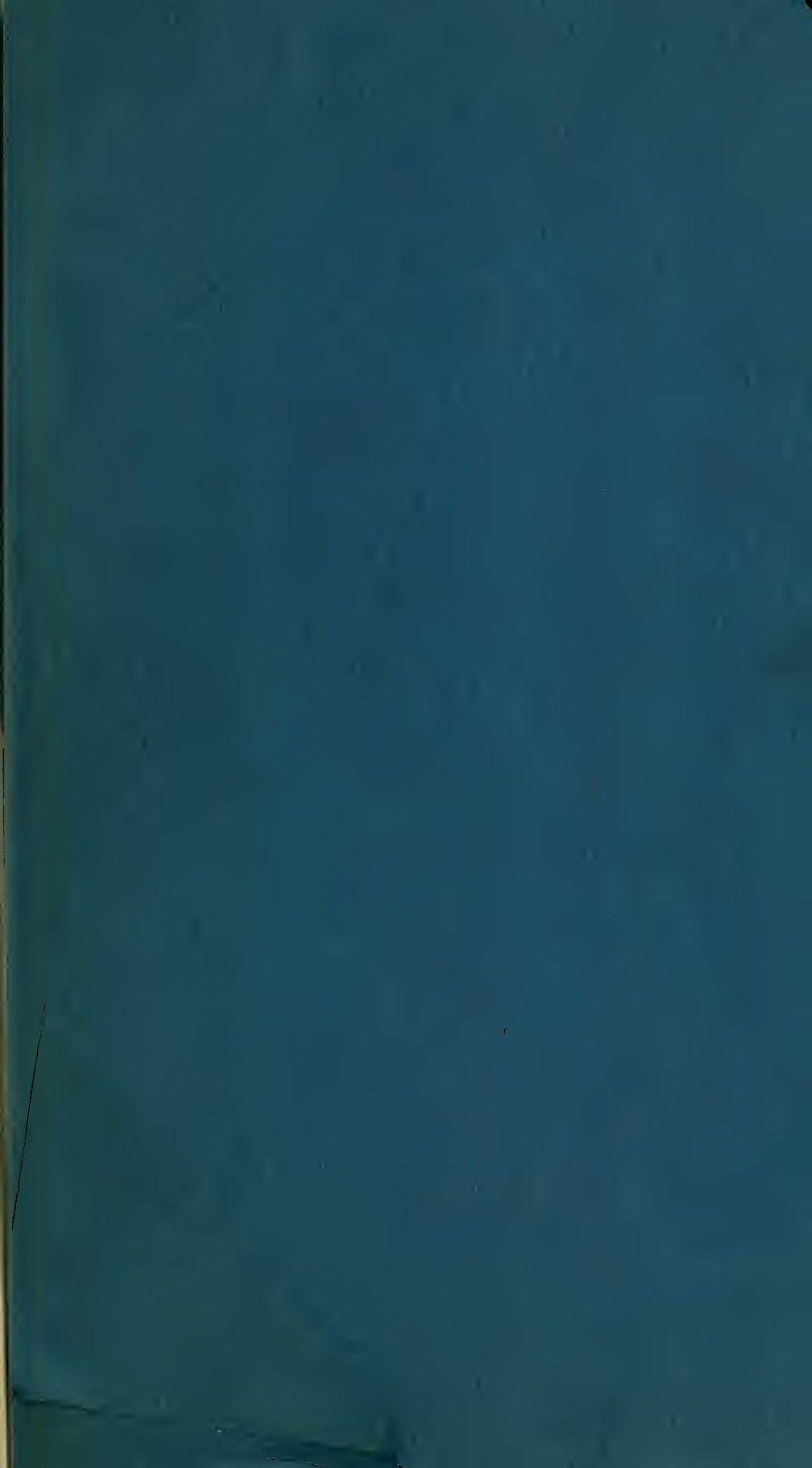
William Greene, 2nd,‡ Lieutenant-Governor of Rhode Island

Samuel Greene Arnold,‡ Lieutenant-Governor of Rhode Island, 1852-1853

William Greene,‡ Lieutenant-Governor of Rhode Island, 1866-1868

Charles C. Van Zandt,‡ Lieutenant-Governor of Rhode Island, 1873-1875

Nearly all the early governors of Rhode Island are connected with Frances Latham either by blood or marriage with her descendants—The sign * is here used to designate governorship under the Royal Charter; † under the Constitution adopted in 1842; ‡ Lineal Descendant





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